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SOURCE Nova Makedonija.

SOVIET TECHNICIANS TAKE OVER ALBANIAN CHROME MINE

Skoplje, 18 September -- According to reports from Albania, Soviet technicians are taking over complete control of the chrome mine in Bulqize, where 600 Albanians work. The mine director, Khavid Nasiti, is an Albanian known for his cruelty to the workers, but the actual management of the mine is in the hands of two Russians, Nikola Pavlov and his assistant Ivan Nikolayev, aided by eight other Soviet technicians.

Ore from this mine is not retained for Albania but is shipped through Durres to other Cominform countries.

The 8-hour workday is observed only on paper. Reasons are constantly invented for overtime work, workers being forced to work in honor of Enver Hoxha or Stalin, or on state holidays. Working conditions are very poor. Pay and food are bad. Because of the workers' inimical attitude toward the government, the management is forced to hold regular political meetings, at which it attempts to divert the miners' attention from their poor living conditions by denouncing Yugoslavia.

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